

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 FEA-01 COME-00 FPC-01

CG-00 DOTE-00 IO-10 /075 W

----- 016358

O R 090930Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3948

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CINCLANT NORORK CA

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENGR PINS MIL PINT AO

SUBJECT: FUEL SITUATION

1. I TALKED ON AUGUST 9 WITH FERNANDO LADERA, A MOBIL OFFICIAL WHO HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE CHARGE OF EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE PRESENT FUEL CRISIS. I HAD HEARD FROM GULF OIL THAT LADERA WAS PUTTING OUT THE STORY THAT THE MOBIL REFINER DID NOT ENTER LUANDA BECAUSE THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAD RECOMMENDED AGAINST IT. LADERA KNEW OF MY EFFORTS TO HELP OUT, BUT, HE REASONED, IF MOBIL OIL REFUSED TO SEND IN THE TANKER AT A CRUCIAL MOMENT, WHEN THE WELL BEING AND EVEN LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE DEPENDED UPON ITS ARRIVAL, IT COULD ONLY HAVE DONE SO AT THE INSTANCE OF A HIGHER AGENCY INTERESTED IN COMPOUNDING THE CHAOS AND DESTROYING THE COUNTRY. THAT AGENCY COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN

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THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

2. I TOLD LADERA HE WAS DEAD WRONG, BUT JUST FOR THE RECORD, AND TO BE IN A POSITION TO ANSWER OTHER CRITICS, I WOULD LIKE TO LEARN WHAT THE DEPARTMENT DID RECOMMEND TO MOBIL.

3. LADERA SAID HE HAS 400 TO 500 CUBIC METERS OF GASOLINE, A GOOD PART OF WHICH MUST BE RESERVED FOR MILITARY USE.

4. MOBIL NEW YORK HAS SENT A MESSAGE TO LUANDA SAYING THAT THE MOBIL REFINER WILL PROCEED TO TOGO AND THEN TO LAGOS AS SCHEDULED. AT LAGOS THE SITUATION WILL BE REVIEWED AND IF DEEMED FEASIBLE THE REFINER WILL STEAM FOR ANGOLA TO OFFLOAD 2,400 TONS OF 90 OCTANE GASOLINE, 1,000 TONS OF 83 OCTANE AND 2,100 TONS OF DIESEL AT LUANDA, LOBITO AND MOCAMEDES. MEANWHILE, LADERA IS ASKING HIS CONTACTS IN THE OIL INDUSTRY TO TRY AND INDUCE MOBIL TO CHANGE ITS MIND. ACCORDING TO LADERA, SHELL HAS APPEALED TO MOBIL TO SEND THE REFINER IN.

5. IN THE MESSAGE DIRECTING THE REFINER TO PROCEED TO TOGO, MOBIL SAID IT HAD DETERMINED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF ITS CONTRACT, "AS A RESULT OF ACTS OF PUBLIC ENEMIES AND PUBLIC DISORDER THE PORTS OF LUANDA, LOBITO AND MOCAMEDES WERE UNSAFE".

6. LADERA SAID HE HAS CABLED CAPE TOWN WHERE THE LPG SHIP THAT FLED LUANDA SEVERAL DAYS AGO IS NOW LOCATED. GULF CAN ARRANGE TO SEND A VESSEL HERE WITH BUTANE, BUT IT WILL NOT ARRIVE BEFORE THE END OF AUGUST. AT THE MOMENT THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO BOTTLED GAS IN LUANDA. THE CAPTAIN OF THE LPG SHIP APPARENTLY USED TRICKERY TO GET AWAY. HE TOLD THE PORTUGUESE HE WAS COMING ON IN TO THE BERTH AND EVEN HAD A PORTUGUESE NAVAL OFFICER ON BOARD. HE GOT UP STEAM, TUNED HIS BOW SEAWARD AND SAILED OFF.

KILLORAN

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Message Attributes

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